

THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT

The Official Journal of the Association of Assistant Librarians
(Section of the Library Association)

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No. 373.

MAY, 1930.

Published Monthly.

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EDITORIALS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Next Meeting of the Association will be held at St. Albans, on May 14th, when the following programme will be carried out :—

3.15 p.m.—Assemble at the Public Library (straight up the road from the station : a walk, or frequent buses).

3.30 p.m.—Visit to St. Alban's Abbey, one of the principal British cathedrals, followed by a ramble to and around Verulamium, the site of the ancient Roman city. Return to the Library.

Members who may care for an alternative visit instead of Verulamium will be enabled, by courtesy of Mr. E. Montague Jones, the Headmaster, to view an exhibition of rare incunabula, etc., at St. Alban's School, next to the Abbey. Will any member wishing to participate in this alternative visit please notify Mr. Green when writing.

5.0 p.m.—Tea, by kind invitation of the Library Committee.

6.0 p.m.—Paper : "Colonial Libraries."

Speaker : Mr. C. H. Waite, F.L.A., Kensington Public Libraries.

Chairman : The Chairman of the Library Committee, City of St. Alban.

The most convenient train is as follows : From St. Pancras 2.15; arriving St. Albans 2.57. The cheap return fare is 2/6. St. Albans can also be reached by bus from Golders Green, the journey taking about an hour.

All who intend to be present are asked to notify Mr. E. W. Green, Librarian, St. Albans, not later than Saturday, May 10th.

Annual Meeting.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Norwich on June 11th, and the enthusiasm and energy of Mr. G. A. Stephen and of the East Anglian Division, personified in the Honorary Secretary, Miss Alexander, together with the generosity of certain distinguished citizens of Norwich, will combine to make it an extremely notable occasion. London members will use the 8.15 a.m. train from Liverpool Street, and the special return fare, at single rates for the double journey, is 14/6. All money for tickets must reach Mr. R. D. Hilton Smith, Central Library, The Burroughs, N.W.4, not later than Saturday, May 31st, after which date no cheap tickets can be obtained. In view of special local circumstances it is necessary, however, to ascertain as early as possible the number who will attend the meeting, and it is essential that Mr. Hilton Smith should be notified by Saturday, May 17th, by every member who intends to be present, **and which of the alternative morning programmes each member selects.** Will divisional secretaries please send similar information by this date?

Through the generous hospitality of the Norwich Libraries Committee and the Misses Colman, the only expense of the day will be the train fare, and we would urge our younger members particularly to respond by attending in large numbers at this notable meeting.

The following is a synopsis of the programme :—

11.30 a.m.—1 p.m.—Alternative visits will be arranged as follows :—

(1) The Castle Museum and Guildhall.

Norwich Castle, with its Norman Keep, stands imposingly on a mound, dominating the city. It now houses a fine Museum (Curator, F. Leney, Esq.), particularly noteworthy being the collections of birds, works by artists

of the Norwich School of Painting, period rooms, and local antiquities.

The Guildhall, a fine flint-faced building of the early 15th century, has been described as "one of the most interesting municipal buildings in England." The Council Chamber is a fine example of a Tudor Court of Justice, and within the Guildhall is housed the magnificent civic regalia and plate.

(2) The Cathedral and Strangers' Hall.

Norwich Cathedral, a fine Norman Church, was founded in 1066, but shows traces of four centuries' workmanship. Particularly notable features are the graceful spires—the highest in England next to Salisbury—the beautiful cloisters, 174 ft. square, and the vaulted roof of the nave and transepts, rich in bosses. *Note*.—As there will be a Festival service at the Cathedral during the morning, members will visit first the Strangers' Hall. The exterior of the Cathedral, the Library, and the Cloisters will be accessible, and admission to the interior will be gained about 12.30 p.m.

Strangers' Hall, a unique example of late mediæval domestic architecture, containing a fine banqueting hall, built in the 15th century, is now preserved as a folk museum, with exhibits illustrating English domestic life through the ages.

- 1 p.m.—Lunch at Blackfriars' Hall, by invitation of the Norwich Public Libraries Committee. The Lord Mayor of Norwich (H. Harper Smith, Esq., J.P.) will welcome the Association, and the Sheriff and the Deputy Mayor will be present.
- 2.15 p.m.—Annual Business Meeting, and Presidential Address by the incoming President, L. Chubb, Esq., F.L.A., at Stuart Hall.
- 3.30 p.m.—Visit to Earlham Branch Library (recently opened), and to Earlham Park, the home of Elizabeth Fry and the Gurney family, described by Percy Lubbock in his book, "Earlham." (Motor buses will convey the members).
- 5 p.m.—Visit to Carrow Abbey by kind invitation of the Misses Colman, who will entertain the visitors to tea. **Carrow Abbey** originally formed the site of a Priory for Benedictine Nuns (founded in 1146), and portions of the ruins are still to be seen in the beautiful grounds.

6.25 p.m.—London members will entrain at Trowse Station for the 6.35 p.m. train to Liverpool Street.

Members wishing to stay in Norwich overnight are asked to communicate with Miss M. Alexander, F.L.A., Central Public Library, Norwich, who will endeavour to obtain suitable accommodation at a reasonable charge.

We have been asked to make known that Mr. C. L. Clarke, the Secretary of the Kodak Fellowship, is open to receive a limited number of applications for his illustrated lecture on Photography, for which no fee is charged. For further particulars apply to Mr. Clarke, Kodak, Ltd., Kingsway, W.C.2.

Members are reminded that the Annual General Business Meeting of the Association will be held on Wednesday, June 11th, and if any member has any business he wishes to bring forward at that meeting will he give notice to Hon. Secretary before May 20th.

***FRANCIS BACON : A Sketch of his Life and a Summary of his Influence on Classification—(continued).**

By Miss E. DIAMOND (Ilford Public Libraries).

In 1809 another French scheme appeared, that of *J. C. Brunet*. Originally designed to meet the needs of the Paris booksellers the scheme met with approval from others, and found its way into private and public libraries alike. This scheme bears a decided resemblance to Bacon's, although the order of the classes is reversed, and there are two additional classes—Theology, and Sciences and Arts. Theology, of course, is purposely kept apart by Bacon, so the only real difference in outline of the schemes is the placing of Sciences and Arts as a separate class. The five headings are :

Theology,
Jurisprudence,
Science and Arts,
Polite Literature, and
History.

Jurisprudence and Sciences and Arts are practically equivalent to Bacon's rather unwieldy Philosophy class; Literature includes the art of Rhetoric and Literary History, which Bacon places under Human Philosophy and History, respectively. The divisions of History are almost the same as Bacon's, ex-

* A paper read on February 12th, 1930, at Mudie's Library.

cept that the History of Nature is transferred to the Sciences and Arts class.

This scheme of Brunet's was altered and revised in 1825 by *T. H. Horne*, an English bibliographer of repute. He added another class, Philosophy, and revised the order, and the result was a scheme with the headings :

Theology,
Jurisprudence,
Philosophy,
Arts and Trades,
History,
Literature.

It is interesting to note here how the term Philosophy has changed and narrowed its meaning since Bacon's time ; Bacon's Philosophy class embraced three of Horne's—Jurisprudence, Philosophy, and Arts and Trades. As we get nearer to our own times we find that the schemes have a greater number of main classes than the earlier ones, but this of course is due chiefly to that difference of connotation of which we have spoken. The newer schemes are devised also for more practical use.

It is impossible, in the time at our disposal, to review all the schemes that might have been influenced by Francis Bacon's ; so many of them bear slight resemblances ; all we can do is to pick out a few of the more obvious ones.

The original scheme of classification in use at the *Library of Congress*, Washington, was based on that of Francis Bacon. It has, of course, been replaced by a scheme better fitted for practical use. Very broadly outlined the original scheme has three main classes :

History,
Philosophy, and
Fine Arts and Literature,

and the divisions correspond to those of the Baconian scheme with only very slight differences. The most noticeable of these is the separation of Geography from History, and its placing before Fine Arts.

For details of the scheme I am indebted to the Librarian of the Library of Congress, and the Chief of the Classification Division, who very kindly sent me an outline.

The classification scheme of the *British Museum*, which came into being somewhere about 1836, is described by Mr. Sayers as "a survival on large lines of the classification theories of Bacon and Brunet." There are ten main classes :

Theology,
 Jurisprudence,
 Natural History and Medicine,
 Archæology and Arts,
 Philosophy,
 History,
 Geography,
 Biography,
 Belles Lettres, and
 Philology.

Of these, Philosophy has much the same connotation as in Bacon's scheme, including as it does such subjects as Politics and Commerce (Bacon's Government and Society), Ethics, Logic, Mathematics and Physics. If we add to these the headings Jurisprudence, Medicine, Arts and Philosophy we have the complete Baconian Philosophy class. Belles Lettres corresponds more or less with Bacon's Poesy, although, in common with all the later schemes, it includes Literary History. The remaining classes, Natural History, Archæology, History, Geography and Biography are equivalent to Bacon's History division.

In 1857 the *Royal Institution* of Great Britain published a classification which may be considered decidedly Baconian in its form. The main headings are :

Theology,
 Jurisprudence,
 Sciences and Arts,
 Literature,
 Geography, and
 History.

It is, in fact, almost an exact replica of Brunet's system, and needs no further comment.

In 1870 an American, *Dr. Wm. T. Harris*, produced a scheme which reverts to the older style of three main classes. This scheme is often spoken of as the "Inverted Baconian," for its divisions are :

Science,
 Art, and
 History,

corresponding roughly to Bacon's Philosophy, Poetry and History. The Science class contains all the subjects mentioned in Bacon's Philosophy, and in addition it includes Natural History and Biology, Archæology and Useful Arts, all of which Bacon places under History. The second class, Art, is, as the

name implies, of much wider extent than Bacon's Poesy. It includes Fine Arts and Music (but not recreations and amusements), also Literary History.

History, bereft of Natural History, Archæology, Useful Arts and Literary History, becomes simply History and Geography, as in all the modern schemes.

There is one other classification that is distinctly related to Bacon's, and that is *Dewey's* Decimal Scheme, first published in 1876. This scheme is so familiar to everyone that there is no need to do more than just mention the relationship. Dewey's scheme is definitely based on Harris's, which in its turn is the Inverted Baconian scheme. In Sayers' "Manual of classification" the three schemes are set out side by side, showing, in an interesting way, the resemblances between them.

Bacon's writings make fascinating reading, but I think we must leave the subject here. I should like to conclude with a quotation from Hazlitt, which sums up Bacon's achievements rather well. He says: "His character was an amazing insight into the limits of human knowledge and acquaintance with the landmarks of human intellect, so as to trace its past history or point out the path to future inquirers, but when he quits the ground of contemplation of what others have done or left undone to project himself into future discoveries, he becomes quaint and fantastic, instead of original. His strength was in reflection, not in production; he was the surveyor, not the builder, of the fabric of science."

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LEICESTER.

There has been bequeathed to University College, Leicester, a very remarkable collection of books by the late C. K. Robjohns, Esq., of Narborough, Leicestershire. Mr. Robjohns during his long life collected books with real knowledge and insight, and towards the end of his life he came into contact with the University College, Leicester, through the Principal, Dr. Rattray. His library, which has come to the College, has been valued for probate at some £6,000. Among its treasures are a Coverdale Bible; a Fourth Folio Shakespeare; Nuremberg Chronicle 1493, practically perfect copy; Aquinas (end of 14th century) in magnificently decorated binding, fully gilt, with silver clasped medallions; Nuremberg Bible 1483 with coloured woodcuts; Froissart's Chronicles (1525); Chaucer (1542); first edition of *Paradise Regained* and first folio of *Paradise Lost*; Gower's *Confessio Amantis* 1554; Foxe's *Acts and Monuments* 1563, fine copy; Wynken de Worde's *Golden Legend* (1490); Higden's *Polychronicon* (1527); Dialogue of Sir T. More (1530); Augsburg Confession (1536); Chronicles of Hardyng (1543), Holinshed (1577), Sleidane (1560), Hall (1560); Bishop's Bible of 1583, sumptuous copy in contemporary blue morocco with royal arms and a fine design painted

on both sides, fine filigree corner pieces, a magnificent specimen of painted binding; Erasmus' Paraphrase of the New Testament (1548-9) with autograph of Bishop Jewell; Coverdale Bible (1550); Geneva Bible (1561-2); Drayton's *Polyolbion* (1622); Taylor the Water Poet (1630); *Historie of King Arthur* (1634); a chained book (Foxe's Acts and Monuments); valuable collections of (a) Bibles (b) Manuscripts (c) Bunyan (d) History (s) Quaker literature and a large collection of valuable modern books, general literature, philosophy, psychology, art. The collection of Bibles is one of the finest in the country, and the same is true of the Bunyan items. Mediæval illuminated manuscripts were valued for probate at £500. Works of historical value abound and the Quaker collection is a rich one.

Among the large number of modern books are: Masson's Milton; Hakluyt (Maclehose edition); Purchas (Maclehose edition); Pepys, first edition; complete set of Frazer; Shakespeare Head edition of Plutarch; Dugdale; Nonesuch editions of Blake and Dante; facsimile editions of the Codex Sinaiticus, the Codex Cantab., the Vienna Genesis.

There is no doubt that the Robjohns collection alone will make the library of the College a place of pilgrimage.

The Robjohns collection, however, comes in addition to other collections in the library of great interest. Some years ago there were given to it by Thomas Hatton, Esq., of Leicester, over two thousand volumes of local histories of all parts of England and Wales, containing many rare and valuable books collected by Mr. Hatton, who is a well-known book collector. They include all the famous county histories—such as the following: Nichols, History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester, including also Mr. Burton's description of the County published in 1622; Hoare's Wiltshire; Throsby, Select Views in Leicestershire from the Huth Library; Monasticon Anglicanum; Lipscomb, Bucks; Carew, Survey of Cornwall, 1st edition 1602; Hutchins's Dorset; Surtees' Durham; Morant's Essex; Clutterbuck's Hereford; Publications of the Chetham Society; Baker's Northampton; Bridges' Northamptonshire; Thoroton's Nottinghamshire; Plot's Staffordshire; Dugdale's Warwickshire, 1st edition; Nash's Worcestershire; Hunter's South Yorkshire; Caradoc, History of Cambria (1584).

Within the last two years the late James Johnson, Esq., of Leicester, left a large and very useful bequest of books to this library, amounting to some fifteen hundred volumes.

Another interesting collection in the library of University College, Leicester, is that from the books which belonged to the late Dr. Philip Wicksteed, well known as an authority on Dante, on economics and philosophy. After his death a fund was raised by Mr. H. H. Peach, of Leicester, and the selection was made. These books include such works as Ducange and Rashdall's *Universities* and a number that are very hard to come by, e.g., a collection of works on Old France such as Messrs. Blackwell, of Oxford, had not seen in thirty years. The College is also fortunate in having the apparatus used by Dr. Wicksteed in his Dante lecture—pictures, maps, charts, a model of Dante's Paradise, etc.

From the library of the late Rev. C. C. Coe came a very useful collection of works on evolution; and from Mr. H. H. Peach some 600 volumes on art.

Many valuable books have been given by Mr. Peach, by Mrs. Wallace Bruce, and other friends, and these include first editions of Dickens, Pope, Ruskin, etc.

The library now contains well over 20,000 volumes. It has recently been extended, is furnished throughout in oak and is provided with cubicles in which students can work in privacy.

***THE HOLIDAY BUREAU, AN EXTENSION OF LIBRARY SERVICE.**

By A. W. McCLELLAN, A.L.A.
(Tottenham Public Libraries).

When any service undertaken by a public library is not strictly confined to the distribution of books it is certain to be criticised as outside the scope of the library. It is necessary therefore to understand and to be convinced of the rightness of a broader theory of library organisation, if extension work is to be justified.

Modern library organisation may be usefully compared with modern business organisation. The organisation of a business falls into distinct sections. That is to say, it consists of ownership, administration, production and selling. In library organisation the counterparts are, the public as the owners, the Library Committee with the Chief Librarian as a sort of managing director as the administration, the various processes from selecting books and placing them on the shelves as production and the distribution of the books to the consumer or the public as the selling.

The object of a business is to create wealth, which is precisely the object of the library. A library exists to create wealth, not necessarily material wealth but social wealth or welfare. Business has a much longer tradition than libraries: we may well respect its conclusions.

In business it is well known that the greater the market for goods, that is, the greater the amount of goods sold, the cheaper it is to sell them and the price goes down while the profit rises. It is understood enough in our profession that we have to make a profit. Where do we find our profit? We find it in more civilised human beings, in a greater understanding of life on the part of the masses, in human beings better fitted to take their part in the life of the community. Such profits are not measurable, but they are as vital as are profits in business.

Now how does a business concern extend its market for goods? It concentrates on its selling organisation and im-

*A paper read at the Junior Meeting, held on February 12th, 1930.

proves its services. Libraries if they are to show such a profit as indicated must sell more, enlarge their markets. Business offers an example. How can a library sell more? By extending and improving its services and by publicity. That is what may be termed a Higher Economical justification of extension work.

It has been a long way round to the Holiday Bureau, but the theoretical aspect has been dealt with at large because there are still many persons connected with library work who are either afraid of or opposed to extension work of any kind. Those librarians and committee men who confine themselves to the narrowest interpretation of the library acts are costing the country dear, because the services they render are not distributed over a large enough population to give a true profit.

A holiday bureau is a piece of extension work designed to advertise the library, to perform a service not rendered by any existing free institution and to acquire more borrowers. It can be run at the little extra cost of stationery, postage and phone calls. The scope of the Bureau should be as wide as possible so as to impress the public. Every inquiry concerning holidays or travel at home or abroad should be welcomed. But of course no agency for apartments or tickets should be considered. There is no harm in providing apartment addresses from local guides and the railway holiday guides. Particulars of every kind of travel should be available by rail, coach, steamship, and air.

A few practical suggestions may be useful. Organising is best begun in time for the Bureau to be opened by the first week in May. If possible provide a separate room which is under supervision from an adjoining room by means of glass partitions or other arrangement. Official guides should be obtained from every holiday resort in the country, especially the smaller ones. These are easily obtained from the local authority concerned if a request in the form of a circular letter is sent about March. Continental guides are provided in plenty by the railway companies.

The guides are filed in stout envelopes or folders. They are arranged preferably by counties, using the Dewey classification marks and then alphabetically. This arrangement brings together those holiday resorts which are in one district or on the same part of the coast. A brief catalogue entry is made for each guide, any special feature such as apartment lists, rail excursions, etc., being noted on the catalogue card.

The card catalogue forms an index to all the information sources in the Bureau.

It is a good thing to interview personally a representative of each of the railway companies, who are only too pleased to advise, provide literature and posters. Get into contact with local agents for motor coaches and steamship lines, who will supply regularly useful literature. Make a list of telephone numbers of all people likely to supply literature or information so that they can be obtained quickly. When no literature available satisfies an inquiry phone the appropriate railway company or agent. As far as possible all literature and information should be classified and indexed in some way so that order is obtained in the great variety of information which will soon accumulate. In the arrangement of the room a bright holiday atmosphere is possible if coloured posters of the better type are used for decoration. Spare literature can be placed in the public's reach for taking away, but all literature filed for reference is best kept out of sight. This keeps the room tidy and the ease with which information is found from seemingly nowhere tends to impress the public, and at the same time forces the public to inquire of the assistant rather than meander amongst a maze of miscellaneous literature failing to find what they want.

A small collection of reference books may be kept handy. It can include gazetteers, railway holiday guides, which cover the whole country, road books, contour maps, etc. Time tables for motor coaches and railways can be placed on the public counter. A list of books in the Lending and Reference Libraries bearing on holiday topics should be kept and recommended to inquirers. This is useful in persuading a person to join the library.

In order to make the work of the Bureau known in the district notices can be displayed at the branch libraries and other suitable places. If the inquirers who are not members of the library are to be linked up with its main work that is the distribution of books, then a direct means to persuade them to join the library is available. A small leaflet or booklet should be printed containing information concerning all the activities of the library and how to become a member. To each leaflet attach a voucher form for signing. A box containing these may be placed on the counter with an invitation to non-members to take one. The assistant in charge should dispose of the leaflets and voucher forms as wisely as possible. Often by the use of tact he can discover that an inquirer is a

non-member and gently convey to him the advantages of being a member of the library.

It would not be difficult to improve on the details of organisation given, and in any case much depends on the circumstances under which the Bureau is organised, so that further suggestions are perhaps unnecessary. The work of the Holiday Bureau is unique in its way because no existing institution enables the public to consider in one place and at one time the relative advantages of different modes of travel and accommodation concerning a particular place. They are enabled to balance the power of their pockets against personal preferences or against the element of time in the easiest possible manner.

Naturally work of this sort does not yield results which are easily determined. They are bound to vary with a number of factors. But in a Holiday Bureau organised for the first time last season the number of inquiries received were approximately 6,750, and a decided improvement in the ticket statistics was noticed. In addition many persons expressed their appreciation of such a service. Therein lies the satisfaction for services efficiently rendered which makes them not only a pleasure but an advertisement which permeates the district in a manner hardly credible. That is our aim.

***PROCESS ENGRAVING.**

By A. BARBARA HILL.
(Birmingham Public Libraries).

The term Process Engraving is applied to the photo-mechanical process by which the bulk of illustrated matter for books, journals and newspapers is produced to-day. More particularly does it apply to the line and half-tone processes and the numerous other processes that depend on these two.

Process-Engraving is the art of photographically printing an acid resist upon a metal plate and then etching the parts unprotected, leaving the design standing in relief. These relief plates can be set up and printed along with the text, and therefore they are extremely convenient for use in newspaper and magazine work.

The line block is used for reproduction of subjects in black and white, where light and shade depend upon the vary-

*The other papers in this series, read at Birmingham on December 18th, 1929, appeared in the issues for February and March.

ing thicknesses of the lines as in pen-and-ink sketches, charts, plans and diagrams.

The half-tone block is used for subjects in light and shade as in photographs and wash drawings, or any subject containing as the name implies, half-tones. As it is not possible to produce for instance, grey tones by merely applying ink to a plate and printing, the half-tone plate is made in a very ingenious way.

The subject is photographed through a special screen, which I shall speak of later, and which breaks up the tints of the original into innumerable dots.

In commoner half-tone work, such as news, these dots may be seen quite clearly, while in fine work on a smooth surface paper they cannot be seen with the naked eye.

Thus there are two distinct divisions in process engraving by which different types of work can be dealt with—line blocks, or zincos, as they are sometimes called, for work consisting of black lines on a white ground, and half-tones for the production of work containing varying degrees of light and shade.

The first etched line blocks were made in 1859 by a Paris lithographer named Gillot. From his process the art of making line blocks developed. It may be useful for me to indicate the method briefly.

A sensitized photographic plate is placed in the camera and the work is photographed. The bellows of the camera should be long, so that the work may be enlarged or reduced, and the camera is fitted with a prism to reverse the image. The plate is sensitized in this way. The glass is first of all cleaned and then coated with the white of an egg dissolved in water and then allowed to dry.

In the dark room the plate is coated with collodion. When this is nearly dry the plate is dipped into a light proof tank containing silver nitrate solution. The nitrate deposits on the collodion on the plate, thus making it sensitive to light. These operations must take place in the dark room. The negative after taking is next developed and fixed.

Next a zinc plate is taken and cleaned by polishing with water and powdered pumice, a felt pad being used for the purpose. The plate is treated with a compound of alum and nitric acid and then coated with a solution composed of water, albumen, ammonia bichromate and liquid ammonia; a solution that is sensitive to light. This is carefully poured over the

zinc plate, care being taken to get it even all over. The plate is then dried by heat.

The negative is then taken and placed film side on to the coated zinc plate. These two plates are next put into a printing frame and, as a very close contact is needed, either screws or a vacuum frame are used. The frame is exposed to the light, usually electric, the time of exposure being from 2-10 minutes, according to the quality of the negative and to the intensity of the light.

Light passes through the negative where the lines are and hardens the gelatine coating of the zinc plate.

The negative and the zinc plate are next separated. After being rolled up with a special ink the zinc plate is placed in clean water and very gently rubbed with cotton wool. The albumen coating which has not been hardened by the action of light is washed away, while that which has been hardened adheres to the plate. Any defective line is touched up and the plate is dusted over with resin, which adheres to the lines and provides a great resist to the acid with which the plate is to be etched. Surplus resin is blown away and the plate is heated causing the resin or "dragons blood" to melt on the lines. When the plate has cooled, the back and sides are "stopped out" with a special varnish which will prevent them being bitten by the acid and then the plate is put into a bath of nitric acid solution. While the etching is taking place the mordant is kept in motion.

When the plate has been in the acid for a little while it is removed, washed, cleaned and lightly wiped over with a sponge containing a solution of gum arabic. It is again rolled up with ink—dried by heat—and another dusting of resin is applied to the lines to prevent them from being underbitten. The plate is again heated causing the resin to melt and run down the sides of the etched lines. This operation has to be done several times before the necessary depth is obtained.

Any parts of the plate which are not required to print are removed with a router, and the plate is nailed to a wood mount and made type high so that it may be printed along with the text if needs be.

The half-tone process is in many ways very similar to the line process, but as I have said before, the main difference lies in the use of the screen. It was Fox Talbot of this country who, in 1852, suggested the breaking of the tones of a photograph by means of a screen of ruled opaque lines—muslin,

crepe or gauze—and from that time many experiments have been carried out. Many and various screens have been invented, the most important being the Levy screen, so called after its famous makers, the Levy Brothers, of Philadelphia. This is how the screen is made. Two pieces of finest plate glass are coated with an asphalt and wax mixture and then ruled with parallel lines by a diamond point. These lines may be from about 50-400 to the inch. The lines are then etched with hydrochloric acid and a black pigment is rubbed into them. Then the glass is thoroughly cleaned. The two pieces of glass are then cemented together so that the lines run across each other, forming very minute squares.

This screen is placed in the camera in front of the plate. The light passing through the screen causes dots to form on the negative, varying in degrees of density according to the amount of light that has passed through. The screen distance is an important factor to consider when using a half-tone screen.

The type of work determines the screen to be used. For newspaper work the screen is about 50, while for fine art work about 200 is usual, for the latter type of work a very smooth surface paper is required to ensure good results, and it is the half-tone process that caused the manufacture of art paper, upon which the bulk of half-tones are printed. Perhaps the chief merit of this type of paper is the way it facilitates the printing of these blocks.

A copper plate is used in half-tone work, and the sensitive coating is a solution of fish glue and bichromate of ammonia. The method of work is very similar to the line process. After the negative and the copper plate have been exposed to the light, the copper plate is washed, causing the coating which has not been acted on by light to dissolve. The plate is then dipped into a violet aniline dye in order to make the picture visible and then the plate is heated to cause the coating to form into a hard enamel.

The plate is then cleaned and put into an electric etching machine, which causes the copper between each tiny dot to dissolve. The plate has to be re-etched very carefully so that the dots in the very light parts of the picture become smaller. This extra work adds very greatly to the appearance of the picture. The plate is then hand tooled and nailed to a wooden mount. A proof is taken and compared with the original picture. The plate is then made type high and is ready for the printer.

Half-tone is the most used process to-day. Illustrations in the daily newspapers and much of the work in well-known journals is produced in this way. Notable examples of fine half-tone work are the "Country Life" publications.

When reproducing colour subjects by half-tone the process is very similar to the ordinary half-tone process, but the plates must be colour sensitive. The exposure is made not only through the prism, lens and screen, but through colour filters, which may be either wet or dry. The dry colour filter which is more often used, is an optically flat coloured piece of glass which is placed in a frame attached to the lens.

When the exposure is made the filter excludes certain rays, while the others are allowed to reach the plate. A special colour filter is used for each colour negative. In making a three-colour half-tone the original must be photographed three times, each time through a different filter.

The effect of these filters is to divide the colours of the original into three main divisions, one being that part of the picture which has yellow in its composition, the second having red and the third having blue as the main colour. Each time the photograph is taken, the angle of the Levy screen is altered so that when all three pictures are superimposed the effect will not be *moiré*. For one of the colours the screen has an angle of say 45 deg. from the vertical, the others being 75 deg. and 15 deg. respectively.

A block is made for each colour, and the final result is obtained by printing the three or four blocks one over the other. Great care has to be taken to get the pictures superimposed correctly, otherwise the result will be a daub.

The blocks may be printed in any order, provided that the inks are adjusted, but it is usual to print yellow first, then red, and finally blue. Black is often used as a fourth colour, as one of the failings of three-colour work is that it does not yield a good black. The use of black or grey gives the work a finer and more finished appearance.

Of course, certain types of pictures lend themselves better to the process than others, but this method of colour reproduction is used for most work to-day.

Examples of line work, half-tones, three-colour half-tones and half-tones used in combination with other processes may be seen in practically every modern book, newspaper and periodical.

OUR LIBRARY

Bethnal Green Public Library. (1) *What shall I read: a catalogue of the books in the Children's Library.* (pp. 273; paper covers; price 1d). (2) *A catalogue of the books published in 1929 which were added to the Lending and Reference Departments.* (8vo.; pp. 74; paper covers; price 1d).

It is fitting that these two excellent catalogues should be noticed together, for they both show such a remarkable advance on anything similar attempted before that they may well form a landmark. They take no mean place in "The Year's Work on Librarianship." To deal with the Children's list first: this is a briefly catalogued record of the 6,000 different titles available for the lucky children of Bethnal Green, arranged on the "Dictionary" plan. It is a revised and enlarged edition of a similar, but inferior catalogue published in 1919. But whereas the first catalogue sold comparatively slowly the sale of this one, we hear, has in less than a month reached nearly four figures. The reasons for this are probably the slight reduction in price, the increased literary interest of the children of the Borough, and most important of all, the irresistible coloured wrapper. The cover, with its three-coloured picture of an Elizabethan Ship, and its tactfully worded injunction, is the work of Mr. P. R. Jerrard, of the Library Staff.

The selection of books is very catholic (with a "record" day's issue in the Children's Department of over 1,000 volumes, what else could it be?) but at least it can be said that nothing that is good has been missed. The whole production is a definite breakaway from tradition, and the pleasant holiday-guide appearance has evidently fully justified itself.

The Annual Catalogue of books is the fifth or sixth to be issued from Bethnal Green. It is better than any of the preceding (the present writer admits this not without jealousy) both in its appearance and in its cataloguing. It is a catalogue which may be read, as well as referred to. The annotations are of a high quality, and with their pleasant literary flavour and tactful allusions to other books, should do much to ensure that the books are read and appreciated.

Here again the selection is catholic, especially in the fiction class, but there are a few notable omissions: A. France's *Rabelais*, Svevo's *The Hoax*, Gerald Gould's *Collected Poems*, Goncharov's *Oblomov*, Clark's *Seventeenth Century*; H. J. C. Grierson's *Cross Currents in Seventeenth Century Literature*; Mew's *Rambling Sailor*; Massingham's *Heritage of Man*; Mic's *Beethoven's Sketches*, etc., etc. (this list could be considerably extended). These are serious omissions in an annual list of this size, and it is to be hoped that their non-appearance here does not mean that they will not be added at a later date. There is clearly something wrong with a method of book selection which, netting such varied fish, misses some of the whales of the 1929 publishing output.

The cover of this list is the best we have seen on any catalogue, either from the U.S.A. or in England. The design, on paper of a rich, glowing orange tint, has a fine, striking, and modern symmetry about it, and the type is from a modern sans serif fount. We imagine every library worker will rejoice to see such a tasteful production produced by a Public Authority, and we offer hearty congratulations to those responsible for it, and to the printers, Messrs. Truslove & Bray, of West Norwood. These two catalogues, together with the bulletins of Sheffield, Boston (U.S.A.), should be on view at the next Conference, when they may be seen by all.

F. S. S.

NOTES ON REPORTS, BULLETINS, Etc.

By STANLEY SNAITH.

Coventry. Coventry Bookshelf, March-April.

The prefatory matter includes notes on Discussion Groups and Lectures, and an essay on 18th century Coventry. A commendable feature of this bulletin, and one worthy of emulation by other libraries, is a selection, under the heading of "Among the New Books," of short extracts from recent literature. The extracts are all suggestive and stimulating, especially those drawn from Stuart Chase's provocative *Men and Machines*; and I can well believe that such a method of introducing readers to new books is more effective than formal recommendations. For example, reading, in an excerpt from Drever and Drummond's book on the pre-school child, that "when people die they are slung up in the sky, where God catches them" (a conception of after-life much more picturesque and plausible than some of the theologians') I am at once induced to make closer acquaintance with the book. The cataloguing of recent additions is efficient, though personally I like such lists to be rather less strait-laced; a touch of enthusiasm makes all the difference between a dull and an interesting list. I do not, however, suggest that Coventry's cataloguing is dull; merely that it does not show that precious "kindling" touch of the book-lover. I notice that Coventry have bought Corbusier's *City of to-morrow*; but the catalogue entry does not attempt to convey any of the beauty of that marvellous book. There is one other little point: the first line of the title ought, logically and aesthetically, to be in alignment with the succeeding lines; Coventry's "lining out" is not good.

Rochdale. Catalogue of books in the Central Lending Library: Ethnological and medical science; economic biology and domestic arts.

A classified list which includes periodicals and certain reference works, and is furnished with the customary author and subject indexes. It is not annotated, nor is it produced with much regard for tasteful appearance; the result is that, though in other respects a very capable list, it fails to evoke my enthusiasm. That shower of full stops on the cover, for instance, and that ridiculous border: faced with such gaucheries, how can one open a catalogue with any enthusiasm? It may be contended that these are trivial criticisms. I disagree. I refuse to believe, as many librarians appear to do, that public library enterprise must inevitably be associated with ugliness. Our buildings are ugly; our shelving appointments are ugly; our binding, our notepaper, our advertising, our printed catalogues, all are ugly in the extreme. Beauty is wanted in our work, not ugliness; progress, not retrogression.

Library Journal (U.S.A.). March.

As usual, every inch of this journal is interesting and evocative of admiration. In library organization and administration the United States can still teach us a good deal. Very valuable and very far-seeing is Edward L. Tilton's article on the planning of school libraries; and Professor Prezzolini gives us an excellent short guide to contemporary Italian literature. Useful, also, is the list of "What other nations regard as the best books in English about their countries."

Boston. More Books: Bulletin, February.

The long descriptive and illustrated list of fifteenth century books is most expertly compiled. I need say nothing about the list of recent

books, as everyone knows how scholarly and sympathetic American cataloguing is.

American Library Association. English history, by George H. Locke (Reading with a purpose).

This pamphlet, even more than some of its predecessors in the same series, compels my admiration. The selection of books is unerring; the characterisation of them, and the discrimination between book and book, is acutely penetrative. For Dr. Locke, evaluation, that bugbear of English librarians, holds no terrors. He speaks out boldly, and because his book-to-read. Bibliography of this illuminating kind is not so common that we can afford to pass it by without some expression, however inadequate, of our indebtedness.

Wilson Bulletin, March.

Library Association Record, March.

The best contribution to this number is Mr. Ernest E. Savage's article *A Programme for the Library Association*. It concerns us closely, and none of us can afford to leave it unread.

American Library Association. Bulletin, March.

Brooklyn: Bulletin, March.

Good cataloguing, with short but informative notes. A bulletin which bears the unmistakable stigmata of an enlightened mind.

Grand Rapids Public Library: Bulletin, January-February.

St. Louis: Bulletin, March.

Bath: Victoria Art Gallery and Municipal Libraries: Festival of Contemporary Arts.

A lengthy review of this booklet would be outside my province, but a word of tribute must be paid to its general "get-up." The heavy sans lettering, spaced with a nice sense of typographical symmetry, looks charming against the primrose yellow of the cover. Most of the advertisements also have sans headings, and the result is an unusual and gratifying congruity.

Sheffield. Books and Readers: Bulletin, March.

The supplement is on the literature of musical biography, and is by Prof. F. H. Shera. The value of recruiting the services of experts for work of this kind is obvious; but the professor's bibliography is not so good as I could have wished. The selection of Beethoven literature, for example, is emphatically unsatisfactory. Four works are recommended: Grace's *Beethoven*, Newman's *Unconscious Beethoven*, and Groves and Tovey on the symphonies. The professor explains that he knows Sullivan, Bekker and Rolland only by reputation. This confession seriously vitiates the authority of his recommendations. Grace's book is not by any means a good one, and Newman's is too specialised to be of assistance to the general reader. No mention is made of Ernest Walker's compact book, *Beethoven*, which, short though it is, remains the acutest

study in English, better even than Bekker's. Turner's eloquent study of Beethoven is unaccountably omitted. Moreover, Professor Shera appears to have forgotten the existence of *The Oxford History of Music*, in which Mozart and Beethoven, and their respective contributions to music, are assessed in detail and with fine critical acumen. Three other books which could usefully be added to the bibliography are Colles's *Brahms*, Gray's *Contemporary Music* and the little study of Beethoven's quartets published in the "Musical Pilgrim" Series.

Darlington. Bulletin, April.

This little cyclostyled bulletin is full of good things. Guide and travel books; The literature of economics; The resources of the Reference Library; the lists of new additions: these features are excellently handled. M. K.'s short essay on "A Day in the Reference Library" blends information and human interest quite skilfully. There is a list of war novels, the only serious omissions from which are Voight's *Combed Out* and Herbert's delicate and shapely *Secret Battle*. I like this unpretentious bulletin much more than some of the more ambitious ones. The typing is distinctly above the average, particularly in its neat alignment at both edges. In fact, I am not sure that, for bulletins, typescript is not preferable to print. It looks pleasingly homely, intimate, modest.

The Countryman. April.

Attention has already been called to this vivacious stripling (which, by the way, is as young as ever, despite the fact that this its "Third Birthday Number.") No student of rural conditions and industries can afford to be without it. I have only one fault to find: the articles are too many and too brief, a veritable swarm of minnows. A few longer articles would (confound these metaphors!) lend backbone to the magazine.

Liverpool. Reading List: Books on mothercraft.

An excellent list, but I prefer fuller particulars. Notes can be dispensed with, no doubt, but the absence of dates is more serious. The list is followed by particulars of local infant clinics, rest homes and day nurseries.

Hornsey. Quarterly Review, April.

This publication is always meritorious, but the present issue is exceptionally so. The list of recent acquisitions is once more a proof that Hornsey keeps abreast of current literature; and all the items included are shrewdly classified and catalogued. The practice of using as annotations brief extracts from distinguished critics is one that might be adopted more extensively. The extracts are often laudatory rather than critical, but they are none the worse for that. "Pencilings" includes a little essay on Lawrence and Scott-Moncrieff: it is imbued with reverence and exhibits, unobtrusively but unmistakably, a deep and affectionate intimacy with these writers. For all its brevity, it is a worthier appreciation than most of those printed in the daily and weekly press. . . . It may be a trivial detail, but I suggest that the appearance of the catalogue entries would be improved if such words as "Editor," "Compiler," and the bibliographical abbreviations, were printed in roman type. Italics are fidgety, and there is no logical justification for their use.

THE DIVISIONS

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION

A meeting will be held at Worthing on May 7th, 1930, when it is hoped as many members as possible will attend.

PROGRAMME.

- 3 p.m.—Meet at Public Library.
- 3.15 p.m.—Visit to Beach House and Gardens, formerly the residence of the Loder family, and afterwards of Edward Knoblock, now the property of the Worthing Corporation.
- 4.15 p.m.—Tea at Beach House Park Café, by kind invitation of Miss Marion Frost, F.L.A.
- 5.15 p.m.—Committee Meeting, Public Library.
- 6.0 p.m.—Meeting, Public Library. Two papers will be read: (1) Literary Associations of Worthing, by Miss P. Wall, Worthing; (2) Some West Sussex men of letters, by Miss E. Gerard, Worthing. Chairman, Miss Marian Frost, F.L.A., Chief Librarian, Worthing.

Will all those intending to be present kindly notify the undersigned not later than Saturday, May 3rd.

GRACE L. DEAN, Hon. Secretary.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

Although fewer than twenty members attended a meeting at Winchester, on April 9th, it was a most successful affair. Good weather added to the joy of a five-mile ramble through the meads.

With considerable thirst the party returned to the ancient city for tea (provided by Mr. F. Pepper, the City Librarian). After the business, Mr. Arthur L. Carver, of Portsmouth, spoke on "Our Vocation: why we are where we are."

His effort delighted everyone, the absence of notes, ease and control of voice, was a revelation and told of much experience at public speaking.

YORKSHIRE DIVISION

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

The next meeting of the Division will be held at Ilkley on 28th May. During the afternoon addresses will be given by Miss M. S. Taylor, M.A. (Chesterfield) and Mr. A. V. Steward (Leeds). The evening session will be occupied by a ramble over the moors.

G. P. JACKSON, Hon. Sec.

NEW MEMBERS

Phyllis Mary Thomas (Newport); Beryl Edith Alice Johnson (South-end); Robert Lewis Wright Collison (Hendon); Miss Lines (Islington); George Eric White, Frederick Baines, Gerald Arthur Selby, Ian Jamieson Clark (Newark); William Edwards (Nat. Library of Wales); Ena Joan Humphreys (Middlesex County); Ethel Gertrude Pethurst (Camberwell); Grace M. Gomm (Chiswick); Phyllis C. Taylor (Isleworth); William Bernard Batty, Joseph Leonard Harman (London School of Economics); W. J. H. McKenzie, Harold Victor Arthur Bonny, Albert Thomas Coutts (Dagenham).

Eastern Counties Division.—Dorothy Mary White, B.A., Barbara Mary Makepeace, Violet Prudence Summerhayes (Ipswich); Reginald Frederick John Ranger (East Suffolk); Kenneth Leslie Mowl (West Suffolk).

Midland Division.—Eileen Althea Derry, John Walker, John Charles Sharp (Birmingham).

North-Eastern Division.—Cecilia Maud Coote (Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society).

North-Western Division.—Phyllis Burrows (Liverpool).

Yorkshire Division.—Marjorie Bonser, Marjorie Mary Browne (Chesterfield); Miss M. Chafer (Bradford); E. Thompson (Leeds).

New Members attached from the Library Association.—Elizabeth Hemsley (Louth); S. T. P. Jacka, B.A. (Ipswich); E. H. Colwell, Joan Fulford (Hendon); W. Dickie, M.A., Ph.D., V. Hickey (Leeds); Miss A. Pickles (County Library, Wakefield); F. G. B. Hutchings (Leeds); T. W. Arbon, F. J. Chapman (East Riding, Yorkshire); Stella Cooker (Brentford).

Transfers from Transitional to Full Membership of the Library Association.—C. S. Cox, E. Wisker (Leicester); Miss B. M. Dovey, Miss P. M. Vernon, Miss G. L. Pardoe, Miss L. I. Sheppard, Miss I. M. Whitehead, Miss G. E. T. Harrison, Miss D. J. Horwood, Miss E. M. Lewis, Miss S. T. Thompson, Miss W. R. Percy, Miss G. M. Walker, Miss E. Timms, Miss N. G. Lambert, Miss C. Z. Hartill, Miss G. F. Osborne, Miss W. E. Warwick, Miss Long, Miss Pearson, Miss Baker, Miss Molyneux, Miss E. O. Griffith, Miss Wilson (Birmingham); A. Hewitt (Middle Temple); F. E. Johnson (Beverley); R. N. Thomas (Poplar); Miss F. E. de Montmorency (Deptford).

NEW APPOINTMENTS

*RICHARDS, F. A., Deputy Librarian, Darlington, to be Chief Librarian, Hyde. Six L.A. Certificates and Language Test. Commencing Salary, £300 per annum. (Also selected: Messrs. *F. E. Cronshaw, Sheffield; *H. W. Elliott, Dorset County; *Ralph Wright, Wands-worth).

*MARSH, Miss M., Assistant Librarian, Darlington, to be Sub-Librarian. Commencing salary, £170 per annum, rising by £10 p.a. to a maximum of £200.

PATON, Wm. B., Sub-Senior Assistant, Glasgow Public Libraries, to be Chief Assistant, Watford. Diploma of the L.A. £220—£260 per annum. (Also selected: Messrs. W. J. L. Hill, Woolwich; *M. I. Pummell, Fulham; *A. J. Walford, Stoke Newington).

*WILLIAMS, ERNEST SYMONS, A.L.A., Senior Assistant, Durham County, to be Assistant, Stafford County. £250 per annum.

ROWSSELL, R. T. G., Chief Assistant, Devon County, to be Assistant, East Sussex, County Library. £150—£12 10s.—£250 per annum.

WILLTON, GLADYS VIOLET, Assistant-in-Charge, Thornton Heath Junior Library, Croydon, to be Children's Assistant, Paddington. Two Certificates of the L.A., and Board of Education Teaching Certificate. Salary, £165—£12 10s.—£215.

SWAIN, EILEEN I. M., Temporary Assistant, to be General Clerk and Typist, Paddington. Commencing Salary, £130.

JENKINS, SYDNEY E., to be Second Assistant, Paddington. General School Certificate. Salary £80—£10—£120.

JONES, HENRY J., to be Second Assistant, Paddington. General School Certificate. Salary £80—£10—£120.

READ, LEONARD, to be Second Assistant, Paddington. London Matriculation. Salary £80—£10—£120.

ROGERS, ALBERT R. G., to be Second Assistant, Paddington. General School Certificate. Salary £80—£10—£120.

TRAYFORD, ARTHUR S., to be Second Assistant, Paddington. General School Certificate. Salary £80—£10—£120.

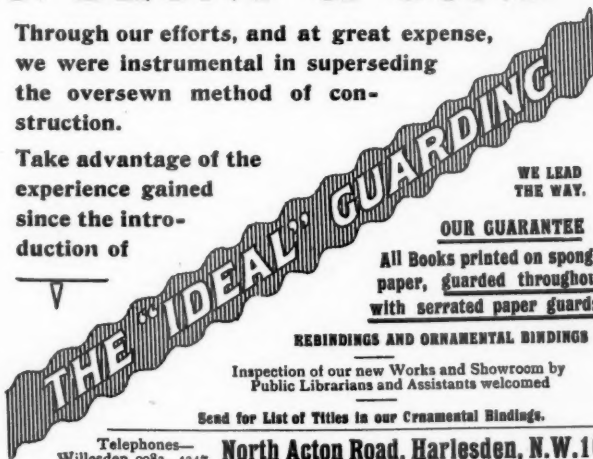
*Those marked with an asterisk are members of the A.A.L. Section.

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANSHIP.

To be held at Chancellor's Hall, Birmingham, August 25th to September 6th, 1930, under the auspices of the Library Association, in collaboration with the University of Birmingham.

PROGRAMME.

Monday Aug. 25th	Registration from 2 p.m.		
	9.30 to 10.30.	10.45 to 11.45.	12 to 12.45.
Tuesday	Library Routine Palæography	Cataloguing "Dr. Johnson and his circle.	Inaugural Address
Wednesday	Cataloguing "Dr. Johnson and his circle.	Library Routine Palæography	Small Libraries
Thursday	Library Routine Palæography	Cataloguing "Dr. Johnson and his circle.	
Friday	Cataloguing "Dr. Johnson and his circle.	Library Routine Palæography	Regional Libraries
Saturday	Library Routine Palæography	Cataloguing "Dr. Johnson and his circle.	Information Bur- eaux and Special libraries.
Sunday	Ramble or other arrangement.		
Monday	Bibliography Classification	Palæography Library Organisation	
Tuesday	Palæography Library Organisation	Bibliography Classification	
Wednesday	Bibliography Classification	Palæography Library Organisation	Continental Libraries
Thursday	Palæography Library Organisation	Bibliography Classification	
Friday	Bibliography Classification	Palæography Library Organisation	
Saturday Sept. 6th	To be arranged.		

During afternoons, visits will be organised to libraries of different types, and there will be practical demonstrations at bookbinding, printing and process-printing establishments.

Visits to Coventry, Kenilworth, Leamington, Warwick, Stratford-upon-Avon, Worcester, and Lichfield will also be organised.

Public meetings will be held on the Wednesday evenings.

Students from all parts of the country will be welcomed.

The use of Chancellor's Hall, the University Men's Hall of Residence has been secured. It is situated at Augustus Road, Edgbaston, and has accommodation for 100 persons. The grounds contain tennis courts, etc. The inclusive terms here will be £3 3s. per head per week. Tuition fees will be fifteen shillings (for the two weeks); ten shillings (for one week); or two shillings for a single day.

Applications should be made as soon as possible to the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. L. Chubb, Reference Library, Ratcliff Place, Birmingham.